

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

UNCLAS STATE 080401

E. O. 11652 N/ A

TAGS: EIND, BTRA, MX

SUBJECT: STEEL SERVICE CENTER INSTITUTE (SSCI)

1. SSCI WILL HOLD ANNUAL CONVENTION IN DALLAS IN MAY. FOLLOWING THE CONVENTION, SSCI PRESIDENT ROBERT WELCH AND APPROXIMATELY TWENTY MEMBERS (PLUS WIVES) WILL VISIT MEXICO, ENDING UP IN MEXICO CITY MAY 21-25. WELCH HAS ASKED DEPARTMENT' S ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING STANDARD EMBASSY BRIEFING FOR GROUP, PREFERABLY MORNING OF MAY 23, ON CURRENT MEXICAN POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SCENE.

2. SSCI CONSISTS OF 350 COMPANIES WHICH OPERATE SOME 900 STEEL DISTRIBUTION PLANTS LOCATED IN ALL FIFTY STATES. IT IS THE PRINCIPAL STEEL DISTRIBUTION TRADE ASSOCIATION, ITS MEMBERS ACCOUNTING FOR APPROXIMATELY 80 PERCENT OF THE STEEL DISTRIBUTION INDUSTRY' S TOTAL ANNUAL SALES OF NINE BILLION DOLLARS. IN 1972 THE INDUSTRY SOLD FIFTEEN MILLION TONS OF STEEL MILL PRODUCTS, MAKING IT THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT CUSTOMER OF THE STEEL INDUSTRY.

3. ASSUMING EMBASSY IS ABLE TO ARRANGE BRIEFING WE WOULD APPRECIATE NAME OF OFFICER WELCH CAN CONTACT REGARDING TIME AND PLACE. SSCI GROUP WILL ARRIVE MEXICO CITY ON UNCLASSIFIED

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MAY 21 AND WILL BE AT CAMINO REAL. ROGERS

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*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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